

Amendments to the Listing of Claims

Please amend claims 1 and 20, so that the claims read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell system comprising:
a hydrogen generator including:
 - a reformer configured to generate a hydrogen-rich gas containing carbon monoxide from a fuel containing hydrocarbon and water;
 - a shift converter configured to generate hydrogen and carbon dioxide from the carbon monoxide in the hydrogen-rich gas and the water; and
 - a carbon monoxide removing portion configured to reduce the carbon monoxide in the hydrogen-rich gas which has not been removed in said shift converter;a fuel cell configured to generate power using the hydrogen-rich gas supplied from said hydrogen generator and an oxidizing gas;
 - an air supply portion connected to a position upstream of said reformer in a flow of the fuel and connected to a position between said carbon monoxide removing portion and said fuel cell in the flow of fuel, such that the air supply portion may be configured to supply air to at least one of ~~[[a]]~~ the position upstream of said reformer in a flow of the fuel and ~~[[a]]~~ the position between said carbon monoxide removing portion and said fuel cell in the flow of the fuel; and
 - an impurity removing means configured to remove an impurity gas from the air supplied from the air supply portion to at least one of the position upstream of said reformer and the position between said carbon monoxide removing portion and said fuel cell, wherein the impurity removing means includes:
 - a sulfur oxide ~~adsorbing~~ absorbing portion having at least one of an adsorbing agent and an absorbing agent of the sulfur oxide, and
 - a catalytic combustor disposed upstream of the sulfur oxide ~~adsorbing~~ absorbing portion and configured to oxidize hydrogen sulfide into sulfur oxide.

2-17. (Cancelled).

18. (Previously Presented) The fuel cell system according to claim 1, wherein said catalytic

combustor is positioned to exchange heat with said hydrogen generator or with an exhaust gas resulting from combustion which is used to heat said hydrogen generator.

19. (Previously Presented) The fuel cell system according to claim 1, wherein said sulfur oxide absorbing portion is positioned to exchange heat with said hydrogen generator or with an exhaust gas resulting from combustion which is used to heat said hydrogen generator.

20. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell system comprising:

a hydrogen generator including:

a reformer configured to generate a hydrogen-rich gas containing carbon monoxide from a fuel containing hydrocarbon and water;

a shift converter configured to generate hydrogen and carbon dioxide from the carbon monoxide in the hydrogen-rich gas and the water; and

a carbon monoxide removing portion configured to reduce the carbon monoxide in the hydrogen-rich gas which has not been removed in said shift converter;

a fuel cell configured to generate power using the hydrogen-rich gas supplied from said hydrogen generator and an oxidizing gas;

an air supply portion connected to a position upstream of said reformer in a flow of the fuel and connected to a position between said carbon monoxide removing portion and said fuel cell in the flow of fuel, such that the air supply portion may be configured to supply air to at least one of the position upstream of said reformer in a flow of the fuel and the position between said carbon monoxide removing portion and said fuel cell in the flow of the fuel; and

an impurity removing means configured to remove an impurity gas from the air supplied from the air supply portion to at least one of the position upstream of said reformer and the position between said carbon monoxide removing portion and said fuel cell, wherein the impurity removing means includes:

a sulfur oxide absorbing portion having at least one of an adsorbing agent and an absorbing agent of the sulfur oxide, and

a catalytic combustor configured to oxidize hydrogen sulfide into sulfur oxide

The fuel cell system according to claim 1,

wherein said catalytic combustor functions as said sulfur oxide absorbing portion and has a catalyst containing noble metal and alkaline earth metal, said catalytic combustor being positioned to exchange heat with said hydrogen generator or with an exhaust gas resulting from combustion which is used to heat said hydrogen generator.